

For nerve, endurance and persistence it would be hard to beat the winter mail carriers between the Ohlo mainland and the four inhabited islands of the curious little archipelago which decorates southwestern part of the may of Lake

There are four of these islands. Kei ley's, the largest, lie almost due north of Sandusky. The three Basses lie a little further west. They range north and south, and are known colloquially as North Bass, Middle Bass and South Bass, To the postoffice department the first named is Isla St. George and the last named Put-in-Bay, famous as a summer resort. Grover Cleveland and Admiral Bob Evans go fishing on Muldle Bass ev

In warm weather the mail reaches the islands on Sandusky, through the com monplace medium of regular daily steam-From December 1 to March II, in- ously walks on the thin ice with one foot, quarter of a mile from shore a cold fog. the ice freezes solldly between mainland and islands and then the carriers drive over their route comfortably with a borse other "star route" carriers.

Most of the time, though, the state of the lake is such that the mail must be eithe rotten ice was followed by a carried in a nondescript soft of craft stretch of open water nearly a mile wide. display genuine hereism. The contracts and everything in the craft was spaked. In the contracts have always been taken by two men, in partnership, and it is very seldom that one one of the carriers had to go to the pretty well scared besides all being tuck-

shore at Catawaba Island, where the shore at Catawaba Island, wher

A WINTER TRIP TO THE BASSES. "I left Port Clinton in the middle of a bright January morning," he said, "driving the nine miles to Catawaha Island. been fair, they said, but they looked for they advised me to postpone my trips too, was solid. "They loaned me a pair of long boots

getting too wet if I should go through land,"

cautioned to keep my hand on the boat every minute while walking, so that I could save myself by jumping into it if

shoulders. I pushed, and it took the unitfor the wind was blowing a gale from the

riors without petting much of wetting. I was more clumsy than they and got pretty damp before I could accamble into

"Compared with 'creeping,' mere tow- him thus;

Hass Island ber'll carriers must of neces- south all the time. muscles uche as if they had been pounded the drift. with sledge hammers.

which can be used as a stedge, a row- If the wind had been right the carriers suffer none from the cold, but we kept boat or a saliboat, as occasion demands. would have stepped their ten-foot mast in setting uneasy and uneasier and by 12 There are many trips each winter on the bow of the boat, spread their sprit or 1 o'clock we knew we were lest. The which the carriers use their queer craft said and sa had a brief period of rest. As lady passenger, she got mighty cold afin all four ways. There are many trips it was all hands had to take to cars. The and then she got frightened, also which are full of real danger, and wind freshened and the seas seemed as scores of times the carriers have had to high as steeples; every one broke over us and that didn't help keep up our spirits dares make a trip alone. When the take stern and steer with an extra our-the ered cut. I'll admit that I'd about given Is bad a third man is often hired.

The mail route to Kelley's Island, eight miles of ice or water without a break, has Marblebead, a point at the mouth of Marblebead, a point at the mouth of when I began, but by this time we get to miles down the lake, but a good deal miles of the mouth of beat had no rudder-and I had to take my Bass Island route, part land and part warmed me through and I was in no Now, I'm telling you that we got to the lake about ten miles in length, leaves the danger of pneumonia, the one disease of Island as soon as we could

a true notion of the work involved in again had to tow and push it over the carrying the mail over this route is to frozen surface of the lake. Here the ice take passage for North Bass with the car- was hammocky and rough, and, before mer who was a passenger. The boat had but there was once a Bass Island carrier fors some day in mid-winter, when the we had gone very far, a driving snow to be towed that day, but we didn't ask who used to drive a cutter sometime is about half-frozen over. One who storm set in which blinded and benumbed the drummer to help, 'cause he was too and when everything looked well, wusn't has been such a passenger told his story us, despite all we could do. How we ever fat and didn't look as though he could afraid to go alone. made the remainder of the three miles to pull none. But he had to walk, and we One day, late in the season, when the South Bass I can't imagine, but we land- fixed him up with 'creepers,' so that he ice was beginning to soften up a bit, he ed at about dusk, left our boat at 'South shouldn't slip, and told him to keep close strated out from South Dock, on Put-in Dock,' and were driven two miles across to the boat for fear he'd fall through a Bay, with his horse and cutter and un the island. After that there was a stretch | thni place and get wet. of two miles and a half to Middle Bass their sledgebent. The passage over had over the ice-thank heaven it was solid- shining, the air was bracing, he felt pret- at night, they were naturally primed to been fair, they said, but they looked for trouble going back. The fee was solld near shore, but very bad in the middle of the three-mile stretch to South Bass. Be-tock at third sledge-boat for our last mile hole—made by rain—and all we could see tock as plainly weakening and there were sides, a storm seemed to be brewing, and and a half stretch of ice. Fortunately it, of him was his head and arms, He wasn't

I should help if I was needed, and at emotions were a mixture of thankfulness he thought he was done for, sure. least should walk whenever they had to that I was still alive and of fear that "Oh. I'm drowned," he screeched . The I'd be drowned on the retur ntrip. But it dead, I'm dead, sure. Wen't nobody help ticed that it kinder bent down, under the was comparatively uneventful, though it me out and save my life?" took us nine hours to reach the main- "We fished him out, but it was a pretand a set of offskins to keep me from took us nine hours to reach the main-

The best is flat hoffemed, apparently of the ice was broken into vast floes, which have taken cold sitting still after his ice so easy as you might think, for, the ordinary like type, is sixtoen feet were slowly moving down the lake with bath and get pneumonia, and besides he as I was in the bottom of the bewl all long, about twenty inches deep and of a grincing motion and a force that would wa stoo heavy to hand. four-foot beam. It is sheathed with gat. crush anything which came in the way. vanised short from the better to stand A big snow storm was on hand and in a a fine wetting and came near being drown-very steep, understand, but still twas up the ice-battering it gets on every trip. On moment he was affeat on a great cake od. I wasn't along, thank goodness but hill.

Its bottom are two runners four inches of ice moving so rapidly from the boat all Bass Islanders remember it. There his bottom are two runners four inches bigh and about five feet long. A layman would take them for parallel false keels.

"Before we started orcepers"—steel with a pike for an hour or man, but to the skin, having been working like break-up owing to high winds and the ice was a breakin up back there. policy we started croepers -steel a trojan with a pike for an hour or more, men had to row and pole the boats. One Then I put the bud to the how and we delping to pole the boat along and he dared not stand still, despite the danger lies with a big load of fish besides the a snap, smash! in front, and pretty soon he'd freeze. Fretty soon the big cake weeks, the islanders had been lucky fish- want no time to stop, as you must so broke up and he found himself on a ing through the ice and the carriers were and the hoss let out another hitch. In no smaller one, not ten feet across. Two freighting the fish to the mainland. The time we was right on to the crack and "Our trouble began before we had gone big floes crushed it and he saved him- sea was running high and the boys were the hose he just give one spring and half a mile. The carriers were then tow- self only by jumping to one of them. In worned that it might be risky to try to go cleared that water with me and the cutter ing the sledge-hoat stern foremost, being despair he gave himself up for lost when through the breakers with so big a load. all right. It looked a rod wide to me, but harnessed to it with short lines or ropes suddenly the storm abuted so that he But they took the risk, and, say! When I was smirt and it mightn't of been more strached about half way between the could be seen and he was presently rest they got out to the breakers they just than six or eight fest, but I was mignig stern and amidships and passed over their cued, sound but almost scared to death. rolled right over, and men, mail bags and glad when it was over and past.

edstrength of all three to make headway. The extriers themselves tell stories ashore had a great time rescuing them when they are reminded of this yarn, and sometimes. One carrier who was cross- with ropes and such and there wasn't always tell another one related by the ing with a horse and sleigh when the ice any mail brought to the mainland that "Suddenly I heard a cracking noise, and seem of the carriers yelled and in a minute we were in the water. As we all had hands on the boat we saved ourselves, the carriers away below zero are stories told by a certain weather-beaten common between the mainland and the old carrier who never uses a sleigh when islands or he'd have frozen to death, the ice is solld, prefering his siedge-boat He happened to have a box of crackers instead. To this he harnesses the horse,

hungry "They made me sit down in the stern The present Hass Island carriers. George Twict," says the old man in a diameter making cold. Then they been the boat chaps before strangers, but in the year or than faintly indicate in type, when warmfor the next half mile. Creeping is two they have been on the route they ed upln the company of his friends. "I when the ice is too solid to have had their own adventures. Luke have struck open water when I was makallow of sailing, poling or rowing and at the same time not strong enough to bear extra man occasionally, and a deckiedly what I done the first time? Why, I just strenuous experience one day, told by got out me ax, he fing, and I cut off a

sledge-boat is the mildest child's "We started out from South Bass in pony on the lee and I got me box play. The men kneel, one on each side of good shape with a lady passenger on it, too, and I peled the big cake and the the boat, one with his right, the other board," says Meyers. "The water was pany and the boat and all right acrost. with his left leg inside the carft. Then full of heavy drift ice and we had to use Couldn't have did it if the water had been with the other leg outside each labori- both poles and cars. When we were a rought. And it was a fool thing to do,

clusive, exactly four months, the winter service is in operation. Nearly every winter there is a brief period during which frozen water. Steel muscled though the rotten plable mass of half-trough the rotten plable mass of half-trozen water. Steel muscled though the compass, of course, and we steered due to the force water. Steel muscled though the compass, of course, and we steered due to the fire the fir Now that was where sity be, a few minutes of 'creeping' is we made our mistake. We forgot that I tried another scheme. It worked all quite enough and after a half mile of it there was a strong drift to the east or right, though maybe you won't believe me they are fairly drenched with perspiration down the lake and we ought to have steerand light bobs," the same as hundred of and trembling from fatigue, while their ed strong southwest so as to have offset way it was, be jecks.

> "As it was, we tugged and tolled and hours. We worken so hard that we didn't up ever seening shore and the babies and when I began, but by this time we got to -miles down the lake, but a good deal up the hess again and on we went. Bring fairly good ice again the exercise had bearer Put-in-Bay than the mainland, us another like the last, all 'round,

THROUGH A SUCK-HOLE.

with a second-boat. We tramped across ty frisky, and he let go of the boat. By hear a tall yarn about the day, and the really in any danger, though it must "When I turned in at near midnight my have been mighty unpleasant for him, but

ty rough trick, for he was heavy and as the ice, and told me that I would be ex- There are many such stories to be heard helplers as a big bag of potato's. After I seen that I know Fd got to hustle or the beat in case poling was necessary. was careless and let go of the beat when beat, but we wouldn't have that. He'd well, like everything. Now, that wasn't

of stepping off the cake of ice, for fear mail. There had been a solid freeze for I seen a crack of water right ahead. That TOLD BY THE CARRIERS. fish were all aflat in a minute. The folks

along, and that kept him from getting a broncho which doesn't weigh more than

so or 700 pounds at most. big cake of ice, be gosh, and I put me

"The next time that happened to me if I tell you about it. But this is the

"It was an ad-fired cold day-mercury away down below zero, and I was so poled and rowed in the fog hours and cold a sitting in the boat and driving me pony, b'jing, that I was wishing for me from freezing. Well, just as I was a The getting drowsy, I seen a big wide black strip of water ahead of me. It was then that I found out what a knowing critter my bony is. Say, I just get out of me boat and unhitched the beast and led him into it. Then I kinder pushed him,

gentle like. 'Lay down,' I says, 'lay down,' Well, boys, he just looked at me a minute, be jiminy, then he laid down, just as easy

The old carrier's friends always heat this story with great delight and they "I did say that night that I'd never go likewise wink the other eye when he has

No other carrier hauls his boat with a horse or takes a horse out at all unless he is sure the ice is firm from shore to shore

accompanied, in spite of the protests of "Well, he did just that. The sun was his friends. When he turned up all right

ominous and cannonlike explosions.

"Comin' home, though," the carrie said, "was where I got scalrt. was considerable thinner than it was in the morning and in mid-channel I no weight of the horse and cutter and me. so that wherever he was, we was in the bottom of a shaller bowt like of ice. When the time, I was drivin' up hill contin "That same winter the two carriers got ually. I aim't saying that the hill was

"Boin by I heard a roar in behind me

Bass and Catawahu Islanders chuckle same carrier about a day when the thin ice fairly waved almost like water as the carrier and his fleet-footed pony sped over that he is really a pincky fellow and express regrets that most of the curricus-OSBORN SPENCER.

IN THE PARLOR.

His words of love delight her, She's such a lonely lass. He makes her life much brighter By turning down the gas. -Philadelphia Freaz

TAPERING OFF.

An Esquimau dwelling in Greenland Was eating some little wax candles A friend asked him why He liked the small siz, And he answered. "I'm tapering off."

-Milwaukee Sentinel.

IN THE CAMP OF THE DEAD (Dedicated to the memory of Col. S. G. Knee of Colesburgh, lowa.)

Pitched low the green tents in the camp of the dead, in the silent city of white, Where the hush of the soft sleep is un broken by aught, save the voice of the wind at night,

As it whispers and sighs with the murmuring leaves of the battles of long

Of victories won or acknowledged defeat. alike to the friend and the foe. Each conquered at last by the victor all, vast are his vineyards today,

As 'neath the blue sky stand the sentinel tombs where sleeps the blue and the There's a silence of song in this camp of the dead; no old familiar refrain

light. Old "Dixle," and "Massa," "The Stars

and the Stripes," resounded far into the night;

No bugle notes thrill, no muffled drum

For resting today are those heroes of war, buried beneath the dark loam, Awaiting the summous of a higher command; a call that we, too, must obey, For God will gather on the great judg- tories of the inquisition, and (except that naturally ended in the triumph of liter-ment day us all with the blue and Americans did not then read Balaice from ature and the revolution, during which

And I wonder if then will our crowns be though with startling differences from as bright as rests on the brow of the anything known in Puritan New Eng-

Who left home and friends so cherished. The poor queen, who was as warmand dear, their country's horser to hearted in the good sense as she was in-

And the air grew bot with the belching of of the time have partly collapsed, and fire, akin to the furnace of hell,

But not till the bravest had been sacri- not to say truth. ficed alike to the blue and the gray. In the early seventies I was a daily

Again in the spring time, when flowers ideas and with a wide acquaintance is are fair, we think anew of the dead,

The flag of the true for ever and aye, on the one hand, and Don Carlos, o'er such shall impartially wave.

Bright garfunds we will weave of red the Basque, in spite of the remonstrances

who were gray wreaths for the brave swer to all argument. LULU MOUTRE PECK

. EX-QUEEN ISABELLA. A correspondent of the New York Eve

ning Post at Paris, writes as follows:

was a highly accomplished New ! England lady, who had married the Spanish minister at Washington, Calderon de She followed her husband to

native high society, could study it. Her friend, the historian Prescott, through whom I imagine she became acquainted with her Spanish husband, wrote a proface for her book. She ended by becoming a fervent Roman Catholic and, it is criticisms of religion in her Mexican book, translated into very good English

cation of the two young princesses in Christina. Madrid-the infant Queen and her sister, her daughter the Comtesse de Baris, was a Paschal dish. There was a see anything but that. The only other in-stance I remember of an American the soldiers also byoke, but the inmates woman forming the minds of foyal prin-woman forming the minds of foyal prin-cesses had a more reputable result. The venerated Dowager Queen Margherita of

The brother of the queen regent's fathe dead: no eld familiar Ferrain

Rings out on the air with the fervor that marked the music of martial strain.

When from lusty threats in the twilight's mation with the daughters of the American Ferrain

When from lusty threats in the twilight's mation with the daughters of the American Ferrain

The brother of the queen regent a received a worite, Munez, whom she married and made Duke of Rianzares, was among the members of the community. "Let Padre

of their accomplished mother. stirs the hearts of the sleepers at dawn. Louis Philippe, in the diabolical expec-former American colonies.

Now stagment the blood that more quick-Now stagment the blood that more quick- tation that she would be stagment the blood that more quick- tation that she would be stagment the blood that more quick- tation that she would be agained to popular again against Jews and Jesuita was nation's brawn.

At the sound of the call or sight of the bella ended by having, I believe, nine isabella II's grand soo, to the affair of flag as it floated from staff and dome, children, of whom four grew up and the rich young lady who had entered from Spain in the fifties, was dressed up under the suppose influence of her Jesuit as a choice salad from Mrs. Radeliffe's confessor. This coincided with the prothe 'Contes Drolatiques,' in reality, things passed in more prosaic fashion,

flammable in the unconventional, became Who fought, bled and died on hattle- a figure of history not to be spoken fields where, like rain fell the shot and about in ladies' society. Now that the religious and anti-religious exaggerations the determined onset of democracy has As the demon of war raged furious and made its way, not without many a setfast, unchained, till the victor held back, the personality of Queen Isabella may be appreciated with more charity.

Spanish politics both at home and in the And sather the blessoms so dainty and colonies. The queen had then been finrare to garnish the lowly green bed. | ally expelled from Spain and her son had We care not which blossoms shall love not yet taken up the crown. Between ingly fall on flag-marked comrade's republican politicians and their figure head King Amadeo, imported from Italy, roses and fern plucked fresh with me of family and friends, remained faithful to the memory of the exequent Wrenths for the tombs of the brave boys were well off in her time?" was his un-

associate of an educated Basque, full of

It is certain that her reign was a progreas, however alow and interrupted, from the old Spain, isolated in the past much as Morocco is today, to the new Spuin. bravely recovering from the loss of her same years as these of Louis Philippe are the first consideration. The pure Mexico, after Spain has recognized the improved to be ell-powered with a queen inevitable separation of that colony from the mother country; and there she arrived or received of the mother country; and there she arrived of the mother country; and there she arrived of the mother country; and there she arrived of the ministers in workmen, to guard against the introduct workmen, to guard against the introduct workmen, to guard against the introduct fine mother country; and there is arrived of the mother tension to the milk of typhoid, scarter fever what is still one of the best books on life remained the survival of the mother tension to the milk of typhoid, scarter fever and other functions discusses. How many spatiantic foreign lady of education, allowed herself to be pushed formed by fever are traccable to cases of the disease sympathetic foreign lady of education.

Marvers to O'Donnell, who took mod-milkman?—Country Life in America.

erate interest in monks and nuns; and Claret was finally promoted, for removal sake, to a bishop's see in the Island of Cuba. There he found ample noid for his fanatical but perfectly sincere zeal, and be died in the vain endeavor to reform his clergy and flock.

Amid his fasts and penances-his haircloth is still preserved as a sacred reliehe was favored with visions. He left a written revelation that some day the sea would rise up and wash Cuba cut of existence, because of the sins of her peaple. Perhaps the American flood sweeping Spanish Cuba from the map may be the symbolic interpretation of the good bishop's prophecy! In any event, I was often entertained by the thought of what our American missionaries would think if they could hear my Basque friend's "Bishop Claret is the saint of the nine-

leenth century!" Another of my Basque friends was a young man when the three-year-old leaballa was proclaimed queen. He chose to fight against her with the first Don Carlos, grandfather of the present Pretender, in the thirties He asknowledged ing a terretain rather free based his right to the throne, was an that the Salic law, on which Don Carlos imposition of the French Leuis XIV. on his descendants in Spain, and that true a standard two-volume life of St. Ignatius | Spanish tradition gloried in queens like the great Isabella. His own sentiment Madam Calderon de La Barca exercised in favor of Don Carlos seemed to apring a general superintendence over the edu- from his hatred of the queen Mother

He told of being in Madrid when the the future Duchesse de Montpensier, and she was fond of presenting them, when populace in sacking the Jesuits' college, possible, to Americans whose, position where they shot down in the chapel a possible, to American whose per possible, to American warranted it. It is said that Queen Isabella remained profoundly ignorant; but accused of producing the chelera epithis may have been a matter of temper-demic by possoning the wells—much as ament and not the fault of her governess, the Jews of Kishenev have recently been for the Duchesse de Montpensier, like butchered for baking Christian babies as

Munog come out and go away" called ologist George P. Marsh, under the care one of the soldiers as they entered the of their accomplished mother.

Americans of this generation can expectation of death. "He will share accarcely imagine the piquancy of the the fate of the brethren" said a muffled scandalous stories, redulent of mediaeval voice. The soldiers, who could not idenladen breeze, bearing a sweet southern gallantry mingled in the strangest pro-tify him, thought it more present not to portions with the mystic figures of pre-brave the anger of a ruler who might be As the maker of all barked the sweet lates and monks and nuns, which were blended song, the song of the blue and retailed from the court of the young the gray.

This queen. It was currently said that her padre Munoz was also mixed up with marriage with her unvirile cousin had the interference of Spanish werehips in been engineered by the French King favor of religious communities in the

> The spasmodic recurrence of popular married in turn. The story, like all news convent against the will of her family Mysteries of Udolpho, from lurid his- duction of a play by Peres Glados and the young lady rejuctantly came liome!

DATES FOR KANSAS FAIRS.

The following are the dates of the cour ty and district and state fairs to be held Kansas and Missouri this year: El Dorado-August 9-12 Sedalla, Mo .- August 15-18. Fredonia-August 22-77. Smith Center-August 23-27. Characte-August 19 to September 2. Winfield-August 30 to September 1 Senses August II to September 2 Burtingame September 1-18. Ottawa-September 5-18. Clay Center-Sept. 64 Mankato September \$5. St. Joseph, Mo.-Beptember 64. St. Johns-September 64. Topeku-Buptember 12-27. Eureku September 12-17. Great Bend September 11-14 Burlington-September 13-14. Hutchinson-September 19-34. El Dorndo-September 20-24 Council Grove-September 21-22 Wichits-Sept. 26 to October 1. Newton-Oct. 5-7.

MAKING CLEAN MILK.

Mills may be unclean from either intera al or external cutiess because the cur is bravely recovering from the loss of her discussed, or because the surroundings and colonies. Her reign covered nearly the the methods are uncleanly. Healthy come A lifetime's close acquaintance with Spaniards oid and Spaniards new may excuse me for adding to the anecdotes without number which the death of Isabella the Second has set afout. I wonder how many American account of the excuser of the execuse of her American governess.

This was a highly accomplished New same was that of a nifetime with the days. It is the man are the first consideration. The pure mild during that time Spain. like France, and during that time Spain. like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time Spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time Spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that the first consideration. The pure mild during that the first consideration. The pure mild during that time Spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that time spain during that time spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that time spain during that time spain during that time spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that time spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that time spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that time spain during that time spain like France, and the first consideration. The pure mild during that the first consideration are mild during that the first consideration. when his secretic four passed undisturbed through the substance court.
With for Patroclain, the com who was separated to be ill-powered with a queen ampleped on the place. A functivity for the passes of the pas